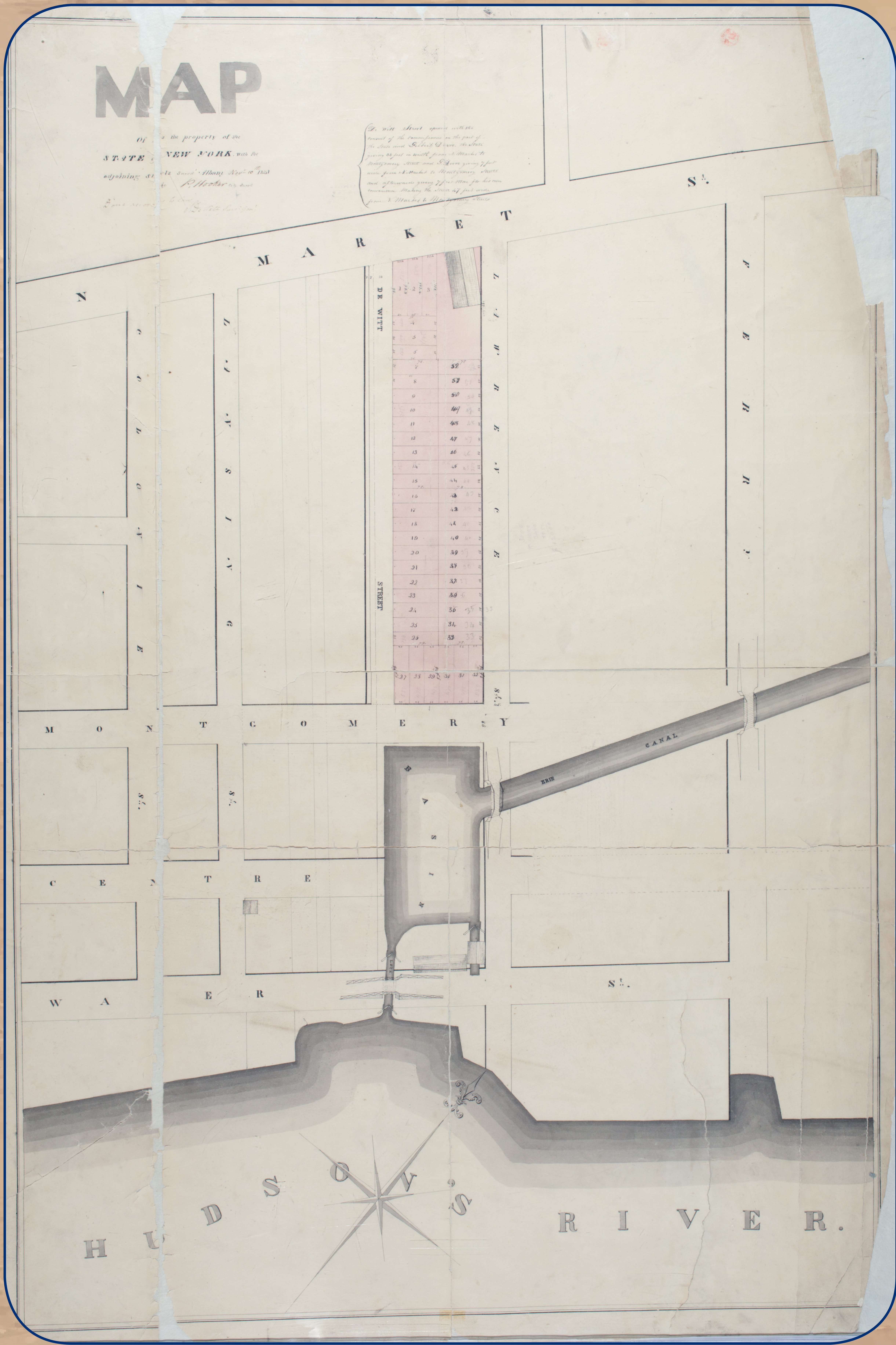


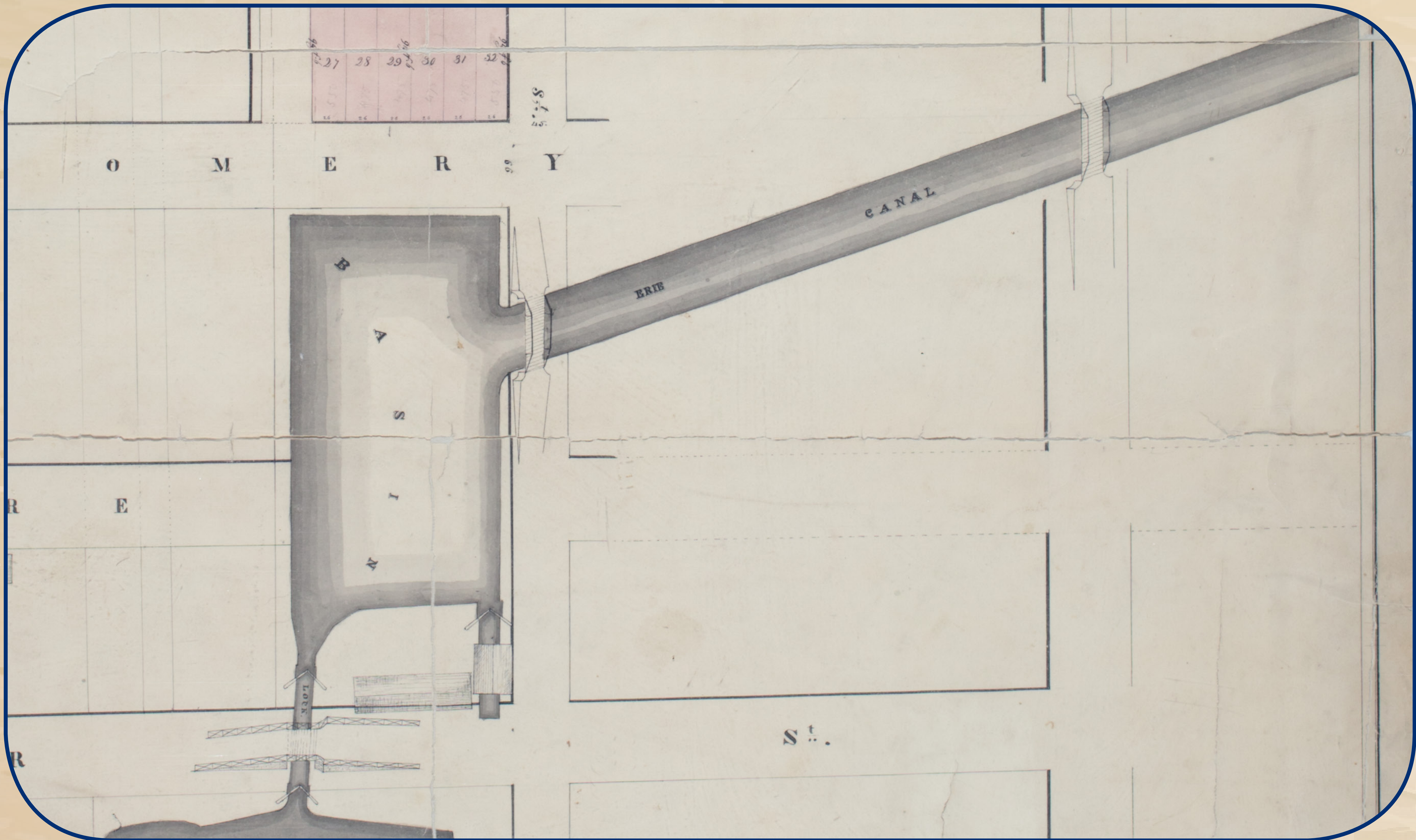
The Erie Canal in Albany

Governor Dewitt Clinton’s dream to build a canal that would “create the greatest inland trade ever witnessed” and make New York City the “granary of the world,” an “emporium of Commerce,” and “the seat of manufacturers,” was realized in 1825 when the Erie Canal opened.



1831

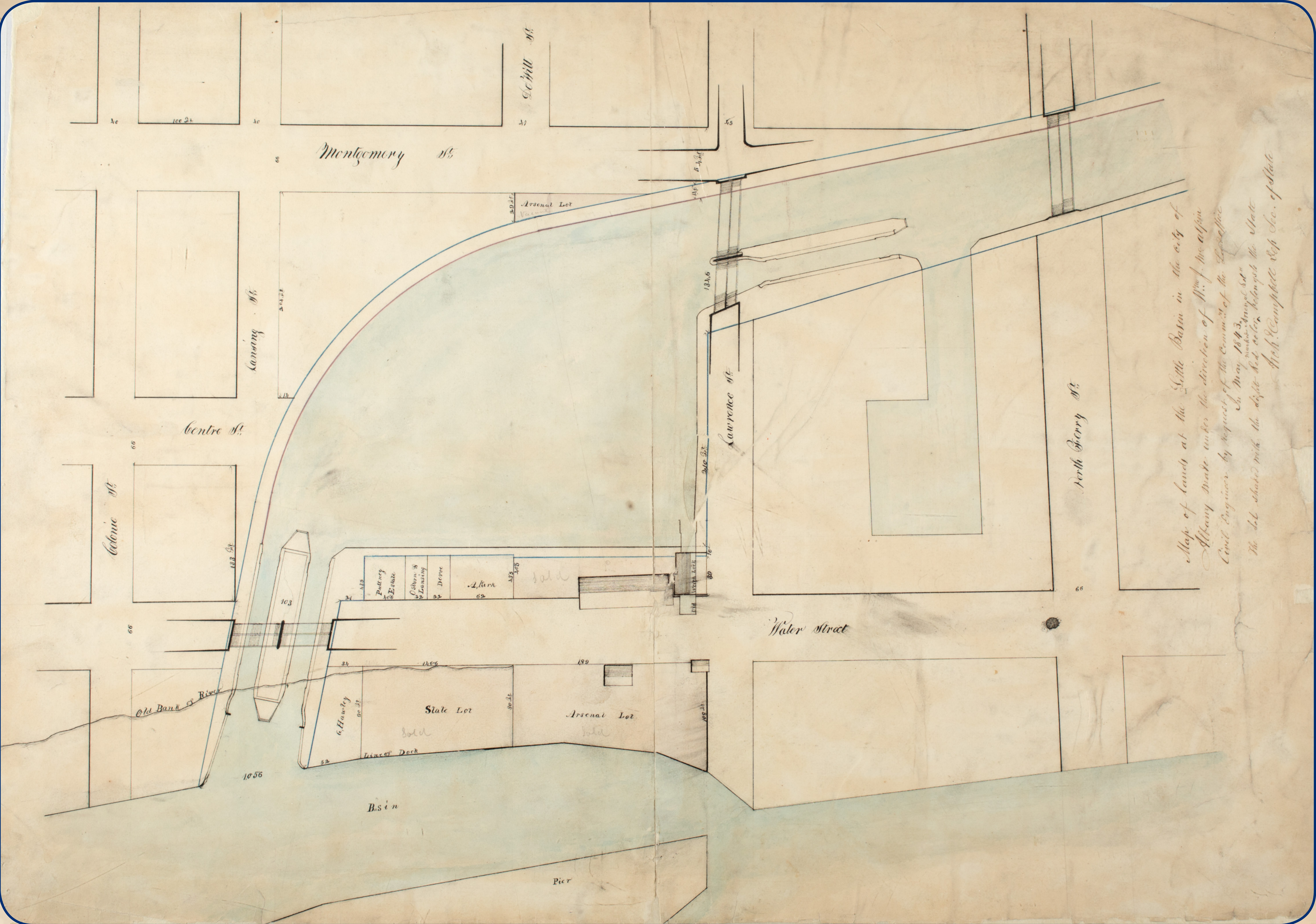
The canal connected the Hudson River to Lake Erie, and spurred economic and population growth including in Troy and Albany, which was original eastern terminus of the Erie Canal when it first opened.



In 2002, two professors from Union College who began working on unearthing traces of early Erie Canal infrastructure. The original Lock 1 was found in an industrial area of North Albany. Pictured above is the location of Lock 1 and the basin used to supply water for the canal.



1843



Albany was the site of Lock 1, which was built in 1843 as part of a project to increase the width and depth of the canal. Lock 1 brought boats traveling from the west down to the level of the Hudson River so they could continue on their way to points south, including New York City, carrying agricultural products, raw materials, and people.

Albany Basin

For nearly 100 years, boats entered the canal at the Albany Basin near Lock 1, bringing work, tradition, and fame to New York’s Capital.

Left: The Albany Basin is now part of the Corning Preserve. Much of the area near the former site of Lock 1 was filled in to facilitate the construction of I-787.

Right: The Albany Basin in 1843.

